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We are pursuing renewable energy in earnest, according to Frank Hoevertsz

ORANJESTAD -- "Renewable energy is the vision that Aruba is pursuing in earnest," says Utilities Director, Frank Hoevertsz during a recent press conference. This press conference was held in conjunction with the upcoming Green Aruba III Conference to be held in the Seaport Conference Center. Hoevertsz understands the challenges that this brings with it. An Aruba independent of fossil fuels by 2020 will be a major challenge, indeed.

Today, the Green Aruba III

Conference is set to open with a very varied program replete with some of the world's most influential speakers. Utilities Aruba, which is one of the major sponsors of the event, indicated that the first two conferences were primarily focused on bringing awareness to the importance of alternative energy. Today, sustainable energy, green energy, renewable energy, are all focused on one primary goal: to ensure that we become less dependent on fossil fuels in so doing to save our world, our planet for future generations. Aruba is making history in this regard.

Aruba is leading the way, and the Green Aruba Conference together with our strategic partners is the vehicle we are using to help Aruba accomplish the goal of becoming the first green economy of the world by 2020.

With respect to the Green Aruba III Conference, there's a long list of world renowned speakers who will be addressing the audience. This year, former Costa Rica Pres-



ident and CEO of the Carbon War Room, Dr. Jose Maria Figueres will be the keynote speaker. Attendance to the Conference is overwhelming. There are 42 seats paid for by the OCTA funds (Association of LGO Countries). These seats will be occupied by experts interested in alternative energy. Along with some 350 persons who have registered, students from secondary schools on Aruba and Aruban companies will also be in attendance. People from 12 different countries have registered for this year's Conference.

New York cracks down on social media gangsters

NEW YORK (AFP) - The New York Police Department is deploying a surge of detectives to patrol an increasingly mean new beat: Facebook and other social networks.

Police Commissioner Raymond Kelly said yesterday that he's doubling the number of detectives assigned to combating local teen gangs and that increased surveillance of social networks will be a major part of the strategy.

The gangs under scrutiny are not the big, established outfits like the Bloods and Crips, which are well known around the United States, but neigh-

borhood groups fighting over loyalties often to just one part of a housing project or other limited turf.

"Under a program we've named Operation Crew Cut, the Department intends to double the size of its Gang Division from approximately 150 detectives to 300 phased in over a period of time," Kelly said in prepared remarks to a police conference in San Diego, California.

The propensity of the social media addicted youths to use Facebook and other networks to "brag about their murderous exploits" means detectives will

be watching their screens, as much as the streets.

"In addition to tracking the admissions of criminal conduct and plans of future crimes by crew members on Facebook, YouTube and elsewhere, the division will be responsible for maintaining a dictionary of sorts with a continually updated lexicon employed by crews as a kind of code," Kelly said.

Officers will infiltrate gangs under online aliases registered with their superiors. They will also be allowed to use untraceable Internet cards on their laptops.

The initiative reflects a shift in crime away from murder, which is down 18 percent so far this year, Kelly said.

However, overall crime is up four percent, largely due to a wave of teen-on-teen thefts, especially involving iPods and other Apple products.

"Like the impact on the economy itself, the allure of Apple devices has affected New York City's crime rate," Kelly said. "In 2002, we recorded a total of 86 thefts of Apple products in all of New York City. Last year that number was 13,233."





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TNO with presentation on the cultivation in Aruba of algae



ORANJESTAD -- Leader of the TNO Caribbean project, Jan Ebbing, explained during last week's press conference that they have already been exploring the subject of "Sustainable Tourism" at the University of Aruba. Young TNO experts are introducing the Triple P concept, which stands for People, Planet and Profit. The big challenge is to keep these three themes in balance because neither can stand alone.

Ebbing explained that, in order to keep these three themes in balance TNO will have to assist Aruba. In addition to sustainable energy, the young TNO experts presented information on other topics as well. This took place in their pre-conference session on October 2nd. According to Ebbing...

rospection of what is TNO's vision, and how Aruba can develop in a sustainable manner after 2020." Ebbing himself made a presentation on what has been done thus far. What are their plans, where does Aruba stand. He then talk a bit about the 'smart community' project in Kibaima which was inaugurated last Monday afternoon.

Ebbing presented their plans regarding the cultivation of algae. He said..."we at TNO consider this proposition very interesting for Aruba and is something that Aruba can use to achieve a new high level industry." They presented this idea during the pre-conference session. In a private meet-

ing with a few people they explored the idea, to discover how they can interest the business world to think along with them.

Most people are familiar with the principle of bio-algae. It is often linked to bio-diesel. According to Ebbing, this is a sub-product. It is very interesting to ascertain whether they can produce other products from algae, for example, medicines and food. This is a high level product and as a result is economically very interesting. They are far ahead in their investigations. The cultivation of algae is something that can have far reaching benefits and which could take quite some time to develop.

Ling & Sons launched its end of year campaign

ORANJESTAD -- On Friday 29 September Ling & Sons IGA, the #1 supermarket in Aruba launched its end of year campaign with the slogan "Ling & Sons ta regala e Fiesta di anja" (Ling & Sons is giving away the "Fiesta" of the year) where customers get a chance to win amazing prizes with every purchase of AWG 50 or more at Ling & Sons. Customers get double raffle tickets

every Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday during this campaign!

Everyone was surprised and delighted to see the end of year setup that Ling & Sons has put in place this year to showcase the amazing 1st prize: FORD FIESTA 2012

The prizes given away with the campaign include:

1st prize: Ford Fiesta 2012
 2nd prize: Fiesta with pop star Rihanna for 2 persons (includes flight/concert tickets and hotel)

3rd prize: Island Fiesta (Island hopping Aruba-Bonaire-Curacao)

The raffle will take place on January 4th 2013.

Besides the end of year campaign launch, Ling & Sons also announced the official date for this year's firework show. The Firework show will take place on December 28th, 2012 and is expected to be spectacular and bigger than ever before. A definite must go event!

Results of Infinity team raffle drawing at Paseo Herencia



Sienna picks the number with help from Candy and the team

Aruba's baseball stars of the future, the young players of the Infinity team, ages 5 to 6, will be going to Bonaire to compete for the island, thanks to the generous donations of prizes by several vendors and efforts of Paseo Herencia management.

The Infinity Team, part of the Giants Baseball Organization, did very well with their fundraising raffle. They sold nearly all the tickets and the drawing was conducted on Saturday evening, during the Paseo Herencia Culinary Event.

Young team members helped pick the five winners, and enjoyed an exciting evening with Paseo Herencia General Manager Valerie Pietersz-Camacho and Marketing and Public Relations Manager Candy Rasmijn-Reino. Team Mascot Sierra was assisted by all the team members in pulling out the five winning tickets.

They are:
 #2864-Dinner for two at Mulligan's Restaurant courtesy of Divi Properties

#1520-Brunch for Two at the Radisson Aruba Resort, Casino & Spa

#0576-Ice Watch from Kristie's Jewelers

#0833-Gift Certificate to TGI Friday's

#0433-Round trip ticket to Bonaire compliments of Tiara Air Aruba

The Infinity team expresses their heartfelt gratitude to all their sponsors for the donation of prizes, which contributed greatly to their successful fundraising effort. Winners are advised to contact Infinity Management of Infinity Sport Shop or Paseo Herencia Mall in Palm Beach to collect their prizes.

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Prestigious Gerrit Rietveld Art Academy welcomes new batch of students



The Gerrit Rietveld Academy of Amsterdam is one of the most prestigious academies of art in the world. As of last year they began offering primary university level training in Aruba. This is an excellent preparation for young people desirous of studying art at the university level.

Rietveld Academy in cooperation with the Aruba Ministry of Culture, is offering the course in conjunction with the international world of art to talented young people

who have the ambition to study art.

The preparatory art course here is an introduction to the manner in which things function at international art academies and is a preparation for future application and admission to the Gerrit Rietveld Academy.

The Rietveld Academy tuition is rather reasonable for local students. They also encourage students from other countries to apply to study in Aruba, who will receive a

special tuition rate.

The academy's first successful year here had 18 students in the 30 weeks program. In only a few short weeks the next 30 weeks program will begin. The government of Aruba is encouraging students to take advantage of this opportunity. They must contact the Rietveld Academy Team at the Department of Culture at Tel. 582-2185.

The primary training program gives the student a great advantage. For example, 15 of the 18 students who followed the preparatory course here in Aruba decided to enter the Rietveld Academy in Holland and were accepted without any difficulty whatsoever.

A famous former student who graduated from Rietveld was an Aruban...the deceased Percy Irausquin was a world renowned designer.

All Aruba young people, interested in the arts, are cordially invited to explore the possibilities and opportunities that this profession has to offer.



Contact the Department of Culture for more information. You can also visit the website: www.gerritrietveldacademie.nl/en/preparatoryh-courses-aruba.

Students with the HAVO diploma or an MBO diploma or their equivalent may be admitted.

Other sites you may con-

sult are:

<http://www.itsnicethat.com/articles/louisa-gagliardi>
<http://mariagroot.com/2010/10/15/theres-nothing-dutch-about-dutch-art-academy-rietveld>

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gerrit_Rietveld_Academy

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Eagle Roofing introduces a revolutionary building system during Expo Cas

Among the 90+ exhibits at Expo Cas 2012, tucked away in the northwest corner of the Renaissance Convention Center was a very small and not overly attention-getting station from Eagle Roofing, which could start a building

revolution on Aruba.

Eagle Roofing Managing Director Navin Secharan was pleased to welcome Ken West of ICS Carlisle, owners and distributors of Premier SIPS, Structural Insulated Panels, from Insulfoam. The

company has been manufacturing Premier SIPS since 1968 and is the largest in the U.S.

The building material consists of insulating, expanded polystyrene (EPS) foam core, laminated between two sheets



of oriented strand board (OSB) using a structural adhesive. The system provides an extremely strong building panel that needs no additional form or skeleton for support.

Those who have thoroughly investigated what is necessary to construct a truly energy-efficient home will know that insulation against Aruba's intense tropical sun should begin from the ground up. The traditional island method of building with concrete blocks is not only time consuming, but counterproductive to reducing energy consumption. A simple test of feeling the heat on the inside of any home's single thickness concrete wall, without insulation, reveals how they heat up with the sun's rays, illustrating how difficult and expensive it is to cool such a structure.

Not only does Premier SIPS enormously cut construction time of the building, but it provides that vital insulation without having to build a double wall. Doors and windows can be pre-cut into the panels. According to independent testing, SIP's are stronger and capable of spanning up to 20 feet without

trusses, which is ideal for cathedral and vaulted ceilings. The material is also insect and mold resistant after being treated with non-toxic, environmentally sound EPS additive and topical treatments.

SIPS also contain 20% recycled materials, prohibited by U.S. building codes to use more. The need for less virgin wood in framing helps in reducing construction waste, as well, having less impact on the environment. They are proven to reduce energy costs by 60% and are more airtight and stronger than traditional framing methods, eliminating a good percentage of dust in the home.

"Building Green" really starts from the ground up when planning a new home or workplace. This is how to save money and be more energy efficient. Rather than investing in methods to cure a problem, it should be eliminated in the very first stages of construction. For more information about Premier SIPS, contact their exclusive agent on Aruba, Eagle Roofing, tel: 593-3350 and visit their website, www.premier-sips.com.

by Rosalie Klein



Registered based on a permit?

Take notice: change of policy as of January 1st, 2013

If you are temporarily registered with AZV on the basis of a permit, your AZV insurance will run for the same period of your permit or till the date that AZV granted according to the proof of your request for a new permit at DIMAS (the so-called "indieningsbewijs"). The same applies for your AZV-card (ZorgPas): the expiration date mentioned on the card is the same date as on your permit or the same as the date that the AZV granted according to proof of your request for a new permit at DIMAS.

It is important to take notice that as of January 1, 2013, AZV will introduce a change in her policy of registration and renewal of registrations with AZV.

Contrary to the past where it was allowed to renew your registration with AZV based on proof of payment of the permit at SIAD together with proof of your appointment with DIMAS;

As of January 1st 2013 this is no longer possible!

The documents that AZV accepts as of January 1, 2013 are:

- a new permit, or
- proof of your request at DIMAS for a new permit ("indieningsbewijs") together with
- a valid ID and your current AZV-card (ZorgPas)

Only if you present yourself before the expiration date mentioned on your AZV-card we can renew your policy without interruption. In the event that you visit us after the date on your AZV-card has lapsed the renewal of the registration with AZV will apply as of the date that you visited us.

Medical expenses made in the period after your AZV-card has expired and you did not request renewal thereof are at your own risk, which means that you have to pay those expenses yourself.

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Romney says would allow Obama immigration order

DENVER, Colorado (AFP) - Mitt Romney would not deport young illegal immigrants permitted to stay in the United States under an order issued by President Barack Obama, the Republican White House hopeful said in Tuesday's Denver Post.

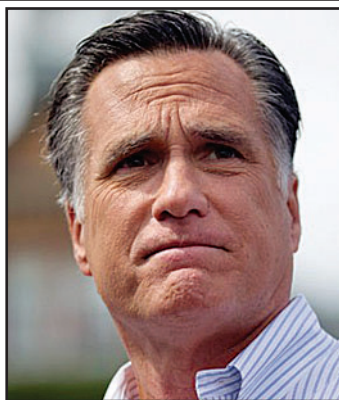
"The people who have received the special visa that the president has put in place, which is a two-year visa, should expect that the visa would continue to be valid. I'm not going to take something that they've purchased," Romney said.

The candidate's comments in the political battleground of Colorado, seen as a critical state for Romney now that his path to election victory is narrowing, suggest a pivot away from his firm opposition to Obama's executive order.

On June 15, the president suspended the threat of deportation against hundreds of thousands of law-abiding immigrants who were brought to the country as minors, delighting crucial Hispanic voters ahead of the November 6 election.

The scheme applies to people brought to the United States before the age of 16, who are currently under 30, are in school or have graduated from high school, or have served in the military and have not been convicted of a felony.

The affected youths will be able to apply for work permits, but not be granted permanent residence or put on a path towards citizenship. The move offers a two-year deferment of deportation proceedings that could be extended by a further two years on expiry.



Obama's decision will go some way to enshrining the goals of the DREAM Act, legislation backed by the White House that could lead to young illegal immigrants gaining permanent residency.

The Republican nominee has had trouble connecting with Latinos, who now make up the largest ethnic minority voting demographic in the

country, and he has promised to veto the DREAM Act if it passed during a Romney presidency.

Romney has stressed the need for a more comprehensive solution to America's immigration problem, and suggested to the Denver Post that immigration would be an early issue to tackle if he is elected in November.

"Before those visas have expired we will have the full immigration reform plan that I've proposed," he said.

Romney has previously said he would provide a path to citizenship for immigrants who are students and serve in the US military.

"The president promised in his first year, his highest priority, that he would reform immigration and he didn't. And I will."

Obama's re-election campaign said Romney's "latest immigration pivot raises more questions than it answers."

"He still has not said whether he would continue the administration's policy that provides a temporary reprieve from deportation for young people who were brought here through no fault of their own," Obama's director of Hispanic press Gabriela Domenzain said in a statement.

"Would he side with his extreme anti-immigration advisors and repeal this measure?" she asked. "Would he deport those who have received a deferment when the program expires after two years?"

Congress and Obama have failed to reach a deal to pass reform that would bring more than 11 million illegal immigrants out of the shadows.



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Official: After Libya attack, US renews focus on AQIM

WASHINGTON (AFP) - US officials said yesterday the deadly attack on a US consulate in Libya has prompted a renewed focus on the threat posed by Al-Qaeda's affiliate in North Africa, suspected of possible links to last month's assault.

Precisely who was behind the September 11 attack that killed the US ambassador to Libya and three of his staff remains under investigation but Al-Qaeda in the Islamic Maghreb is now under intense scrutiny given its possible role in the incident, two officials said.

"Obviously there's a spike of interest in AQIM since the attack," an administration official told AFP.

The US government's probe of the assault is "looking at extremist groups in the Benghazi area as well as AQIM," said the official, who spoke on condition of anonymity. "It doesn't

appear at this point that there was a highly organized command and control structure but it was nonetheless a relatively complex attack."

The Al-Qaeda franchise called on Muslims to storm other US embassies in North Africa and kill American envoys days after the assault on the Benghazi mission, in which gunmen kept security teams at bay for hours and fired rocket-propelled grenades.

In the past, US spy agencies have portrayed AQIM as a lesser threat than some other branches of Al-Qaeda, with the group not yet able to carry out plots on targets overseas like its counterparts in Yemen or Pakistan.

But US officials have been concerned that the fall of dictator Moamer Kadhafi in Libya created more room for extremists like AQIM to operate, while also freeing up weapons.

"It's definitely getting more attention," said a second US official, who spoke on condition of anonymity.

Just the possibility that AQIM may have played a role in the Benghazi attack has concentrated the spotlight on the outfit, the official added.

The Washington Post reported yesterday that the United States may expand its campaign of drone strikes against Al-Qaeda to target the desert bases of AQIM.

A spokesman for President Barack Obama's National Security Council would not confirm details of an internal debate among the CIA, the State Department and the Pentagon.

But NSC spokesman Tommy Vietor told AFP: "The president has been clear about his goal to destroy Al-Qaeda's network and we work toward that goal every day.

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INTERNATIONAL NEWS

FARC demands 'total guarantees' of no arrests at talks

HAVANA (AFP) - A negotiator for Colombia's leftist Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC) rebels yesterday demanded "total guarantees" that no member of its delegation at upcoming peace talks in Norway would be arrested under pre-existing warrants.

"The warrants must be removed completely -- if any judge, in Norway or elsewhere, had the idea to arrest a member of the FARC delegation it would be a disaster," senior rebel spokesman Rodrigo Granda, who has been dubbed the de-facto foreign minister for the FARC, told AFP in Havana, Cuba.

Talks between the Colombian government and FARC representatives -- aimed at ending one of Latin America's oldest conflicts -- are set to begin in Oslo on October 15, the rebel group said.

The two sides are currently

meeting in Havana to negotiate the terms of the peace talks in the Norwegian capital.

Those anticipated discussions are the first attempt in a decade to achieve a negotiated end to a conflict that began when the guerrilla group was founded in 1964. Three earlier attempts failed.

The last round of peace talks, held in 2002, collapsed when the Colombian government concluded that the guerrillas were regrouping in a Switzerland-sized demilitarized zone it created to help reach a peace deal.

The current commander of the armed forces, General Sergio Montilla, has already accused the guerrillas of lying, notably about hostages taken during the conflict.

The FARC says it freed its last hostages in April and is holding no more captives, but Montilla says at least 60 soldiers are still missing.

Hong Kong ferry crash claims 38 lives



The bow of the Lamma IV boat (L) is seen partially submerged during rescue operations after it collided yesterday with a Hong Kong ferry killing 38 people, Hong Kong's worst maritime disaster in decades. The captains of the ferry and the pleasure boat that collided were arrested yesterday with five other crew, officials said. More than 120 passengers and crew were on a Hong Kong Electric company vessel to watch a huge National Day fireworks display in Victoria Harbour Monday evening when the collision occurred near Lamma island. Scores of people were thrown into the choppy water from the company boat, which sank within minutes, leaving only its bow protruding from the waves. (AFP)

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Police make arrests for student lynching that shocked France

GRENOBLE (AFP) - French police yesterday arrested 12 suspects over the killing of two students lynched by a mob armed with hammers, baseball bats and knives.

The killings last Friday in the Echirolles suburb of Grenoble sparked outrage in France and prompted President Francois Hollande to travel to the southeastern city late Monday to visit the families of the dead young men.

Hollande was accosted as he visited the poor suburb by a local resident who lambasted security forces for failing to stop the violence she said was plaguing the area.

Interior Minister Manuel Valls also travelled to the city and yesterday denounced what

he called a "massacre" and vowed that the killers would be tracked down.

Three suspects, who may be of most interest and all have convictions for violent crimes, are still on the run, prosecutor Jean-Yves Coquillat told reporters.

Kevin Noubissi and Sofiane Tadburt, both aged 21, were beaten and stabbed to death by a gang of about a dozen people in a park. Noubissi was stabbed seven to eight times, and Tadburt 30 times, the prosecutor said.

The gang was reportedly seeking vengeance after a minor incident outside a high school involving Noubissi's younger brother.

Thousands of locals held a

commemorative march in the suburb yesterday to honour the two men, who were said by friends and families to be model students.

Most of those arrested yesterday in Grenoble were aged between 18 and 21, and most have criminal records, officials said.

No one has admitted guilt, the prosecutor added.

Two brothers, both in the military, were the first to be arrested in the case, police said, after being brought in for questioning on Monday. One was found near Grenoble, the other in a town about 500 kilometres (300 miles) away.

Their mother was also brought in for questioning yesterday.

Abu Hamza's health has worsened, British court told

LONDON (AFP) - The health of radical Islamist preacher Abu Hamza has deteriorated, the High Court in London heard yesterday, as he began a last-ditch legal bid to halt his extradition from Britain to the United States.

The Egyptian-born cleric with a hook for a hand, and four other men were set to be sent to the United States after Europe's top rights court gave its green light last week, but are seeking to block their expulsion.

To avoid extradition to a US high-security prison, Hamza and fellow terror suspects Khaled Al-Fawwaz, Syed Tahlia Ahsan, Adel Abdul Bary

and Babar Ahmad must prove there are "new and compelling" reasons not to send them.

The British government said the case was a delaying tactic.

Two senior judges hearing the pleas were told in papers lodged with the court that Hamza is seeking a temporary injunction pending a request for an MRI scan to be carried out due to his "deteriorating health".

Alun Jones, a lawyer for 54-year-old Hamza, argues that there is "uncontradicted medical opinion that a scan is medically necessary".

"If the applicant (Hamza) is unfit to plead, or arguably so,

it will be argued that it would be oppressive to extradite him."

The lawyer said a judge referred to Hamza's "very poor health" at an extradition hearing in 2008.

Hamza, the former imam of the Finsbury Park mosque in north London, is wanted in the United States on charges including setting up an Al-Qaeda-style training camp for militants in the northwestern US state of Oregon.

He has also been charged with criminal conduct related to the taking of 16 hostages in Yemen in 1998 and with advocating violent jihad in Afghanistan in 2001.

Nigeria student massacre claims 26 lives

KANO, Nigeria (AFP) - Gunmen massacred at least 26 people in a student housing area of northeast Nigeria yesterday, calling victims out by name before shooting them or slitting their throats, officials said.

The attack occurred in the early hours in the town of Mubi, where the military last week carried out a high-profile raid against Islamist extremist group Boko Haram, which has been waging a deadly insurgency.

Some officials however suggested the massacre may have been linked to a recent student election.

According to a police spokesman, the attackers knew their victims and called them out by name in an off-campus area near a polytechnic school

where students live.

The police spokesman, Mohammed Ibrahim, put the death toll at 25, including 19 students from the polytechnic, three students from a health technology school, two security guards and a retired soldier.

A relief official speaking on condition of anonymity said 26 people had been confirmed dead and 15 were wounded and taken to hospital. The military had taken over the area.

"The attackers knew their targets," Ibrahim told AFP.

"They were calling out names of their targets in each house they entered, and once the target identified himself, he would be shot dead. We strongly suspect an inside operation."

He added that some victims' throats were slit.

The suggestion that the killings were linked to the student election however raised questions over how and why the dispute would have turned so violent.

There were suggestions of ethnic tensions between the mainly Muslim Hausas and predominately Christian Igbos involved in the vote.

Violence has erupted between student gangs in the past in Nigeria, but it is not known to have previously led to a massacre on such a scale.

A spokesman for the National Emergency Management Agency said reports indicated some of the victims were candidates in the polls.



Caribbean Sea Jazz Festival Aruba



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Health & Living

EU to tighten medical controls after breast implant scandal



BRUSSELS (AFP) - A breast implant scandal affecting thousands of women this year damaged confidence and highlighted the need to tighten controls in Europe on everyday medical devices, the European Commission said.

The new rules will cover every device, from the simplest plasters to life-support systems by way of in vitro diagnostic instruments, to ensure that they are correctly approved and then monitored in use.

Earlier this year, the French government recommended that faulty breast implants which were prone to rupture made by Poly Implant Prothese (PIP) should be removed.

More than 400,000 women around the world are believed to have received PIP implants and many countries followed the French lead after the company was found to have used substandard, industrial-grade silicone gel.

Asked whether his regulations would have prevented the PIP scandal, he said they would "militate against such fraud" but the key issue was that once they were sold there had been no follow up to check the implants.

"What we want to emphasise is" the control of products once they are in use to check that they are made to the specifications laid down and approved, he said. "If this had happened, the PIP scandal would have been detected many, many years before."

The proposals mean medical devices will now have to undergo a "thorough assessment of safety and performance before they can be sold on the European market," with "control processes ... radically reinforced," a statement said.

The aim is to give health-care professionals better information on the benefits and risks while manufacturers will benefit from clearer rules, with those not complying excluded from the market.

The medical devices market in the 27 EU states plus Norway and Switzerland was worth 95 billion euros in 2009, the statement said.

The proposals now go to the European Council and the European Parliament for approval.

Dutch abortion ship heads for Morocco

RABAT (AFP) - A Dutch "abortion boat" has set sail for Morocco, its first trip to a Muslim country, to provide abortions to women who are exposed to grave health risks if treated domestically, its organiser said on Monday.

"The ship is on its way. We can't yet disclose the place and time of arrival... We expect it to stay for up to a week." Rebecca Gomperts, the founder of the Dutch non-profit organisation Women on Waves, told AFP by phone.

The group says that, according to figures published by the Moroccan government, between 600 and 800 abortions take place every day in the north African kingdom, where the procedure is illegal and taboo.

"The problem is that only about 200 cases are done properly, by women who have money," the Dutch abortion doctor said, with the rest resorting to dangerous methods because they are unable to afford the expensive treatment.

This leads to the deaths of 78 Moroccan women each year on average, Gomperts claimed, citing statistics provided by the World Health Organisation.

The Dutch organisation says it was "invited" to Morocco by local youth group the Alterna-

tive Movement for Individual Liberties (MALI), to raise support for the legalisation of abortion in the country.

The authorities' response to the initiative remains unknown, with local daily Al-Tajdid, the mouthpiece of Morocco's ruling Islamist party, questioning on Monday whether the government would allow the ship to enter Moroccan waters.

Gomperts admitted that Rabat's reaction was "hard to predict," but she argued that any attempt to block the visit would be an "illegal" intervention in the freedom of travel and the freedom of expression.

She denied it was an inappropriate time for the visit, despite religious sensitivities running high in Muslim countries after violent protests last month against a US-made anti-Islam film and the publication of blasphemous cartoons in France.

"I understand that (the visit) is seen as a provocation by some religious groups. But this is about women's health. It has nothing to do with religion."

Over the past 11 years, a Women on Waves ship has visited Ireland, Poland, Portugal and Spain, sparking protests in each country from pro-life groups.

Salmonella treat from Dutch smoked fish

Scores of people in the Netherlands and the US have caught salmonella after eating Dutch smoked salmon, say Dutch health authorities. But this was "probably the tip of the iceberg", the institute's Hareld Wychgel told the BBC - "the real number of infected people is likely to be much higher". Smoked salmon produced by Foppen has been taken off the shelves in the Netherlands, and an international recall targeting salmon sold in the US was being prepared. Infection normally causes diarrhoea, abdominal cramps and sometimes fever and vomiting, says the UK's Health Protection Agency. The symptoms usually clear up in four to seven days, but in some cases treatment may be required for dehydration. In a statement on its website, Foppen offered its "sincere apologies for any inconvenience".

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Sci-Tech

Indonesians hack into beached whales in mass stranding



SAVU, Indonesia — Locals on a remote island in eastern Indonesia on Tuesday cut up several dead pilot whales for food after a mass stranding that killed at least 41 of the mammals, an official said.

A total of 44 pilot whales beached themselves late Monday on the island of Savu in East Nusa Tenggara province, where there is a culture of whale hunting for consumption.

"Locals have hacked into around 11 whales so far and will probably use the flesh for meat," Savu fishery office chief Dominggus Widu Hau told AFP.

More than a dozen fishermen, navy and police officers

were still struggling Tuesday afternoon to keep the three surviving whales alive.

"We managed to push them back into the water, but they returned to the beach," Hau said.

Jakarta Animal Aid Network identified the mammals, which lay stranded around 150 metres (492 feet) from the coastline, as pilot whales. Those beached were between two and five metres long, Hau said.

Pilot whales commonly become stranded en masse since they stick together in large groups, especially if one is sick, according to marine biologists.

Samsung Galaxy S III Display Beats iPhone 5



Facts - The Galaxy S3's display is just 1.1 millimeters thick and offers the full color gamut of the NTSC standard. In comparison, the iPhone 5's display is 1.5 millimeters thick and offers 72 percent of the standard color gamut.

To put this into perspective, end users should not notice any difference when looking at

the screen.

Meanwhile Samsungs lawyers have added the iPhone 5 to the company's patent infringement lawsuit against Apple, two weeks after threatening to do so. That lawsuit, one of many ongoing between the two mobile giants, concerns eight patents on data transfer, media syncing, touch

screen technology, and more that Samsung says Apple violates.

The pre-emptive announcement had seemed suspiciously timed to interrupt the news cycle ramping up to the iPhone 5 launch, which broke records by pre-selling two million units in the first day.

Apple and Samsung are now awaiting an injunction hearing, scheduled for December 6, during which Apple will seek both treble damages, as a result of the jury's verdict largely in the company's favor, and permanent injunctions against the Galaxy Tab 10.1 and many Samsung smartphones that were found by the jury to have infringed.

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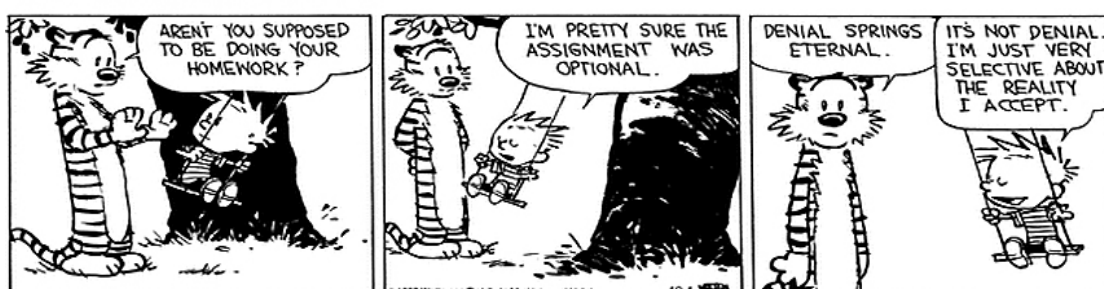
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GETTING ONE'S GOAT

ACROSS

1. ___ quality
5. Waller or Domino
9. "Faint heart never ___ fair lady!" (Iolanthe)
12. Italian cheese city
13. African lily
14. "The Adventures of ___ and Otis"
15. "Little Gidding" poet
16. Small stream
17. Do "Time"-ly work
18. Dilapidated
20. "You Can't Hurry ___"
21. Fencing weapon
22. Exulted
24. Apparel
28. Ornamental nail

DOWN

29. Golfer Patty
30. Sidewalk, for one
33. Riches cache
37. Teheran resident
39. Diaper fastener
40. Hotter than ___
41. "Lion King" meerkat
42. Horologist Thomas
44. Greatest quantity
45. Ready for reaping
47. Card game
49. Aesthetic taste
52. Manx cat's lack
54. Red-coated cheese
55. Y2K trouble-shooter
61. 1984 Nobel

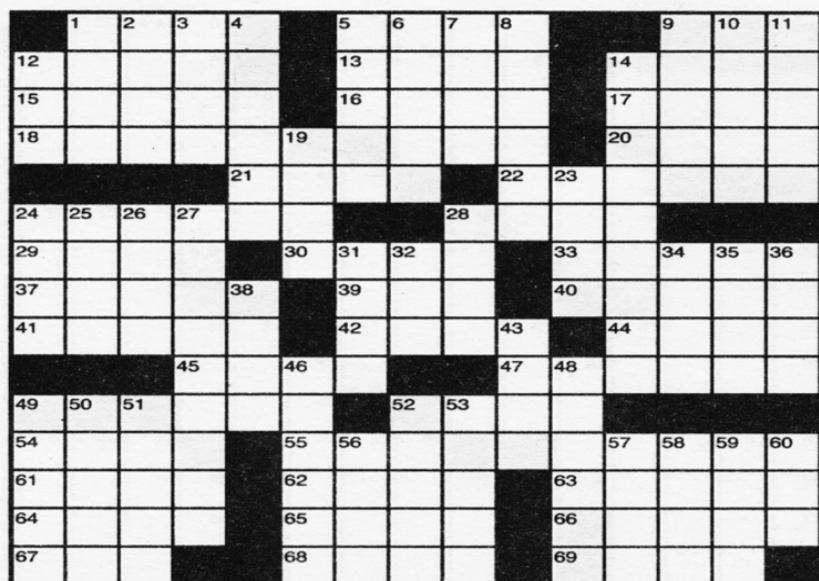
Peace Prize recipient

62. Diving position
63. Bullwinkle, e.g.
64. Stout and porter
65. Before the Fall abode
66. A diamond has one
67. Correspondence unit: abbr.
68. Apartment fee
69. Caterpillar hair, e.g.

DOWN

1. Spanish dining hall
2. Neat
3. TV's Burke
4. Somewhat
5. Exaggerated comedy
6. Comparable

7. Fee
8. Elite
9. "A ___ for One Year" (John Irving novel)
10. Popeye's "goyl"
11. Well-known
12. For each
14. Three-hanky film
19. Caricatures
23. Actress Roman
24. Somewhat
25. She and Dean were "Lois & Clark"
26. Mine cart
27. Nitwit
28. Transported
31. Cathedral section
32. Tell an untruth
34. Clue for a hound
35. Sleeveless sweater
36. This: Sp.
38. Monogram unit: abbr.
43. One with will power?
46. Bell, for one
48. Grips
49. Rose part
50. Past puberty
51. Tardier
52. Nominal
53. Swiftly Lazar, e.g.
56. Excursion
57. Cindy Crawford's trademark mark
58. Castle encircled
59. He is, in Mexico
60. Female of the ruff



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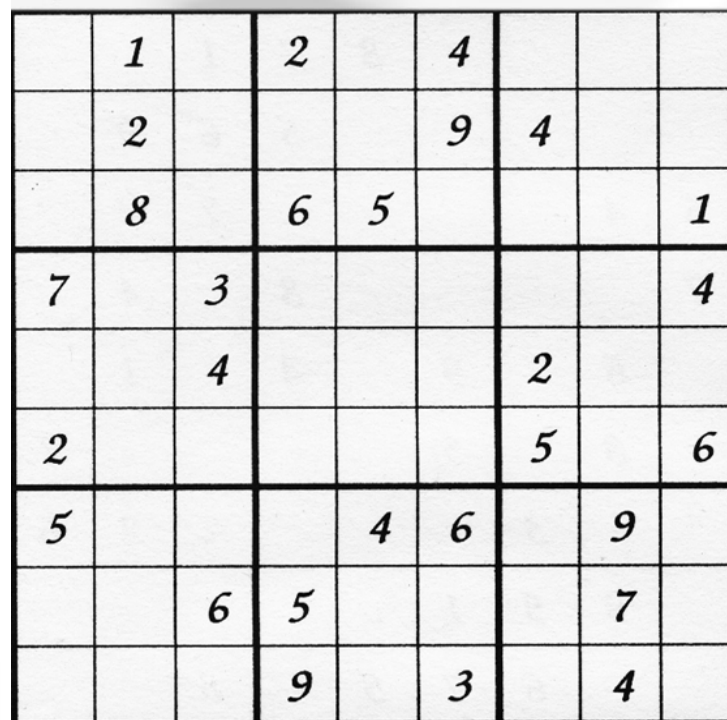
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Z	6	8	9	T	L	1	E	S
9	E	S	1	L	T	8	6	Z
L	8	Z	S	6	E	T	9	1
T	1	6	Z	9	8	E	S	L
1	Z	E	L	S	9	6	8	T
8	S	T	6	E	1	L	Z	9
6	9	L	T	8	Z	S	1	E

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Finance

Swiss petition seeks to expose Greek tax dodgers

GENEVA (AFP) - Switzerland could lend help to austerity-hit Greece by sending the names of tax-dodgers to Athens, a petition addressed to the government urged yesterday.

Launched by Geneva trade union activist Paolo Gilardi, the petition claims Greek tax evasion amounts to 550 billion euros -- 2.5 times the crisis-hit country's GDP -- and "part of this money is sitting in Swiss banks."

In a call to the Federal Council, the petition notes that Switzerland recently sent thousands of names of United States citizens with Swiss UBS bank accounts to the Washington tax authorities as part of a US probe into tax dodging.

"Today, we ask you solemnly to do the same to help save the Greek people," the petition reads, adding that the money in Swiss banks was responsible for "making the Greek people even hungrier."

The development comes as negotiations continue between Switzerland and Greece for an agreement on the issue of tax evasion.

As part of the deal, Greek

individuals with non-declared funds in Switzerland would maintain their anonymity, but their assets would be taxed by Bern, which in turn would transfer the revenues to Athens.

But Greece turned its back on the deal on October 1 after getting hold of a CD containing names of Greek nationals with undeclared Swiss bank accounts, according to a statement from the Greek Finance ministry.

Greece has not released any estimation of undeclared Greek funds placed in Switzerland, although Greek media estimates vary wildly, from two to 200 billion euros (\$258 billion).

In 2011, the Swiss National Bank estimated that Greek nationals placed assets worth 3.5 million euros in Switzerland's banks, an increase of 1.2 billion euros from 2010, according to news agency ATS.

Ahead of the present initiative -- the first step towards it becoming law in Switzerland -- the Association of Swiss Bankers (ASB) rejected a call from Greece to release details of Swiss bank accounts held by Greek nationals.

UN forecasts 3.2 percent Latin American growth this year

SANTIAGO (AFP) - Latin America and the Caribbean will post lower growth of 3.2 percent this year due to the weak global economy, a UN report said yesterday.

The Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) said the slowdown experienced last year carried over into the first half of 2012, bringing down the growth projection for the entire year from the 3.7 percent announced in June to 3.2 percent.

"The economic performance of Latin America and the Caribbean in 2012 and 2013 is largely subject to the adjustment processes in developed countries, as well as the slowdown in China," ECLAC executive secretary Alicia Bar-

cena as she unveiled the report here.

"It will also be dependent on the region's own response," she added.

The Economic Survey of Latin America and the Caribbean 2012 identified private consumption as "the main driver of regional growth, thanks to the growth in labor markets, increased credit and - in some cases -- remittances."

It stressed that a dramatic slowdown in external demand and a downward trend in the prices of most export commodities have been hurting regional economies.

Most South American and Central American countries (plus Mexico) will this year post GDP growth rates similar or slightly lower than those in 2011, due to increased consumption and, to a lesser extent, the growth in investment.

But Argentina and Brazil, which account for a considerable proportion of the region's weighted GDP, will have

slower growth than the rest (2.0 percent and 1.6 percent respectively), ECLAC said.

It cited this as the main reason for the lower regional growth this year compared with the 4.3 percent of 2011.

Regional growth this year will be led by Panama (with GDP growth of 9.5 percent), followed by Haiti (six percent) and Peru (5.9 percent), the UN agency said.

Bolivia, Chile, Costa Rica, Nicaragua and Venezuela are expected to expand by five percent this year, while Mexico is tipped to grow by four percent, it added.

Paraguay will be the only country to shrink, by two percent, due to exceptional climatic factors that destroyed part of its production of soya - its main export product, the survey said.

ECLAC said the Caribbean sub-region would grow by 1.6 percent, Central America by 4.4 percent and South America by 2.8 percent.

EU has no cash for Erasmus student fund

BRUSSELS (AFP) - The EU's Erasmus student exchange program along with various social welfare schemes are nearly broke after cuts made to the 2012 budget by austerity-driven member states, a top lawmaker said yesterday.

French conservative member of the European Parliament, Alain Lamassoure, who heads the budget committee, said that "the European social fund is bankrupt and can't refund member states."

"Next week it will be Erasmus, the student program, at the end of the month, the Research and Innovation Fund."

Speaking at a news conference, Lamassoure blamed the shortfall on governments that fought for a four-billion-euro cut in the EU budget, in line with austerity policies across the 27-nation bloc.



AFP photo shows people passing a sign for JPMorgan Chase & Co. at it's headquarters in Manhattan, New York City yesterday. New York Attorney General Eric Schneiderman has filed a civil lawsuit against JPMorgan Chase alleging widespread fraud in the way that mortgages were packaged and sold to investors in the days that lead-up to the financial crisis. The allegations, which were filed in New York State Supreme Court, concern business that transpired during 2006 and 2007 at a now-defunct Bear Stearns, the failed Wall Street firm which was purchased in 2008 by JPMorgan Chase

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Current as of: 10/02/2012	Currency Code	Buying rate banknotes	Buying Cheques	Selling Rate
U.S.A.	USD	1.77	1.78	1.80
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Canada	CAD	1.79	1.81	1.83
Britain	GBP	2.81	2.85	2.92
Switzerland	CHF	190.13	190.85	191.65
Netherlands	EUR	228.21	230.29	232.60
Sweden	SEK	26.01	26.73	27.53
Denmark	DKK	29.92	30.64	31.44
Norway	NOK	30.27	30.99	31.79
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Pope's butler lashes out at Vatican claiming mistreatment

VATICAN CITY (AFP) - Pope Benedict XVI's former butler Paolo Gabriele accused the Vatican of mistreatment during his detention, prompting the state to order an inquiry.

Gabriele told the Vatican court, where he is on trial accused of stealing documents, that while in detention he was at first kept in a cell where there was not room to stretch his arms.

He also said that he faced "psychological pressure" in a

security room at the Vatican during his 53-day incarceration after being arrested in May.

The Vatican has no real jail and Gabriele was held in two security rooms in the headquarters of the Vatican gendarmerie -- a sort of police force with around 130 members that is separate from the Swiss Guards.

He has since been placed under conditions of house arrest.

As Gabriele made his claims

of mistreatment in the courtroom, the head of the Vatican gendarmerie Domenico Giani, a former Italian police officer, turned visibly red.

The Vatican immediately ordered an investigation into the claims, but spokesman Federico Lombardi said the dimensions of the cell were in line with international standards, adding that Gabriele's charges "raise a few queries."

The former butler's complaints will now be examined

by an internal inquiry, but experts have already raised questions over whether the Vatican's judicial system and criminal code are guaranteeing its prisoner basic human rights.

The criminal code dates back to the late 19th century. It was updated in 1913 and 2008, but Conor Gearty, professor of human rights at London's LSE University, said on his blog in August that the Vatican has shown scant regard for the defendant's rights.

'Hotel Transylvania' checks in with top box office spot

LOS ANGELES (AFP) - The animated monsters who become Dracula's guests in "Hotel Transylvania" scared up \$42.5 million in their first weekend out, topping the North American box office, industry figures showed yesterday.

Another film in its premiere weekend, "Looper," a mob movie starring Bruce Willis and Joseph Gordon-Levitt, trailed in second place with a \$20.8 million debut.

Cop drama "End of Watch" with Jake Gyllenhaal was in third place with \$7.8 million for its second week, followed by Clint Eastwood's "Trouble with the Curve," about a baseball recruiter losing his sight, with \$7.3 million.

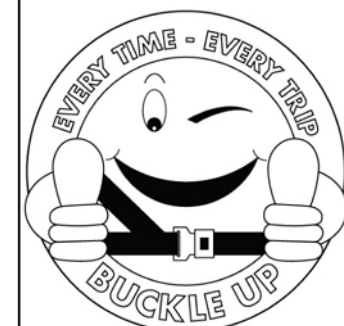
Fright flick "House at the End of the Street" brought in \$7.1 million in the number five spot, while teen comedy-musical "Pitch Perfect" was sixth with \$5.1 million.

The 3D version of pioneering 2003 animated movie "Finding Nemo" was in the seventh spot with \$4 million. In eighth was "Resident Evil: Retribution," cashing in \$3 million.

"The Master," about the rise of a religious leader in the United States in the 1950s, played by Philip Seymour Hoffman, earned \$2.7 million. Rounding out the top 10 was "Won't Back Down," about two mothers trying to improve a school, raking in \$2.6 million.

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Gold Coast Aruba: Great savings for large families on holiday rentals



Aruba's newest and most innovative gated community has enjoyed steady sales since breaking ground, as many are finding the secure surroundings and outstanding amenities are just what they were looking for before considering purchasing property on the island. Some owners are using the villas or town homes as vacation retreats rather than full time and are taking advantage of Gold Coast's rental services to turn their investment into ready income.

"The greater portion of home owners are using their 'home away from home' in Aruba to escape the winter months, or spend holidays with the family on the island," noted Gold Coast developer Fito Croes. To assist in the demand for more complete facilities for groups and families, famed hotelier Ed Ma-lone has been placed in charge of the rental program.

Staying at Gold Coast is a very attractive proposition for those traveling with groups that would require multiple hotel rooms. Two and three bedroom Villas or Town Homes accommodate large numbers and offer extensive amenities along with a final cost resulting in considerable savings. The community is minutes to the best beaches and all the casino action, and offers a quiet and secluded getaway with two swimming pools and specialized services with more on the way, such as a fitness room, tennis courts and mini-mall. Ed can arrange maid service, babysitters,

caterers, airline pick-up and drop-off; they even boast a shopping service to stock your shelves before arrival.

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parents or a few couples. Beautifully appointed kitchens and bathrooms grace each abode; barbecues and lounges are provided for friendly cookouts and truly savoring the island life. All

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Eat like a local at The Queen's restaurant at Palm Beach Plaza



Varella, Luisa and the next generation of chef



Grandma's stoba with classic rice and beans handhome-made potato-beet salad

An elegant décor with a breezy terrace overlooking Palm Beach welcomes guests to Varella Innocencia's very popular restaurant showcasing authentic local cuisine:

The Queen's.

They may have moved from Oranjestad to hipper new digs in Palm Beach Plaza, but the food and prices are strictly native, which is what first won this charming eatery their loyal clientele. Varella's mom, Luisa, is still in the kitchen, conjuring up the delicious dishes that have been in her family for generations, acknowledged on the menu with items such as "Carni Stoba di Mamachi" - "Grandma's Beef Stew," and their Arawak Steak, along with local delicacies like Keshi Yena - "Full Cheese." This is a tasty, filling stew of chicken, with other ingredients that are handy that day, all incased in a thick skin of melted Gouda. It was very satisfying and particularly memorable paired with The Queen's garlic bread and very special Pica, a mix of chopped onions and the famous local hot pepper, Madame Janette. Not overly spicy, it lends that perfect bit of tang to this deliciously picturesque meal.

One of the distinctions of Aruban cuisine is incorporating unique indigenous ingredients such as in Wild Cucumber Stew and a particular light fish chowder accompanied by the local specialties pan bati (corn meal pancake) and funchi (the local version of polenta.)

Seafood main courses: Catch of the Day Aruban Style - shrimp and a mixed seafood platter with shrimp, fish, squid, scallops and mussels. Meat dishes such as BBQ Chicken and Ribs or Grilled Tenderloin, each including a choice of 2 side dishes; all quite yummy and bargain-priced to boot!

The Queen's is located on the second level of Palm Beach Plaza, tucked into a cozy corner at the front of the mall. If you have a mind to try the real deal in Aruban food, without a doubt, this is the way to truly eat like a local. They are open from 11:00 AM to 11:00 PM, daily, offering indoor and outdoor dining. Aside from an extensive menu they also have daily specials made from whatever is in season and Mama Luisa is in the mood to prepare, so don't forget to ask about what isn't on the menu!

SPORTS

Football: Ex-Germany captain Ballack retires



BERLIN (AFP) - Ex-Germany captain Michael Ballack has retired from professional football, his manager Michael Becker confirmed on Tuesday, with the former Chelsea star currently without a club.

Having turned 36 at the end of last month, Ballack has been without a team after his two-year deal at Bayer Leverkusen expired in June.

Since leaving Leverkusen, Ballack had been reported to be negotiating with clubs in north America's MSL and Australia's A-League, but has decided to hang up his boots.

Ballack made the last of his 98 appearances for Germany when he captained the team during their friendly defeat against Argentina in March 2010 having made his national debut back in April 1999 against Scotland.

An ankle injury he suffered playing for Chelsea in the FA Cup final in May 2010 ruled Ballack out of the last World Cup in South Africa when he

lost the captaincy of the national team to Bayern Munich's Philipp Lahm.

Having played for Kaiserslautern, Leverkusen and Bayern Munich in the Bundesliga,

Ballack spent four years at Stamford Bridge with Chelsea between 2006 and 2010.

He was part of the Blues team which lost the 2008 Champions League final to Manchester United in Moscow before captaining Germany to the Euro 2008 final where they suffered a 1-0 defeat to Spain in Vienna.

Ballack is the veteran of two World Cups - he was suspended for the 2002 final, when Germany lost 2-0 to Brazil in Japan, before leading the Germans to third at the 2006 tournament they hosted.

Cricket: Ex-champs India ousted despite win



COLOMBO (AFP) - Former champions India beat South Africa by one run Tuesday but still crashed out of the World Twenty20 as Pakistan went through to the semi-finals by virtue of a higher run rate.

India made 152-6 in their 20 overs and needed to restrict South Africa to 121 runs or less to reach the last four at

Pakistan's expense. In the event they bowled their opponents out for 151 in a narrow but academic victory.

Pakistan will meet host Sri Lanka in the first semi-final in Colombo on Thursday while Australia, who went through on run rate despite losing to Pakistan, will play West Indies on Friday.

French handball gripped by illegal betting probe

MONTPELLIER (AFP) - France faced calls on Tuesday to crack down on sports betting, as arguably the world's biggest handball star faced possible criminal proceedings over a high-profile match-fixing probe.

In a case that has dominated headlines in France for the last week, 18 people, including nine current or former players of league champions Montpellier, were being investigated after suspicious betting patterns at one of

the club's matches last May.

Among those under the spotlight was Nikola Karabatic, a double Olympic and world handball champion and one of the sport's most recognisable stars, as well as his brother, Luka, plus their girlfriends.

On betting, French sports minister Valerie Fourneyon said players and coaches all needed to be aware of the rules, particularly with the advent of on-line gambling.

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Football: Spain vows to block Gibraltar UEFA bid

MADRID (AFP) - Spain on Tuesday vowed to use all legal means available to block Gibraltar's bid to join UEFA, after European football's governing body granted provisional entry for the contested British territory.

UEFA's executive committee decided Tuesday to admit Gibraltar's football league as a provisional member, in line with a ruling by the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS).

It is due to decide at a congress in London in May whether it will admit the rocky British Mediterranean outpost

off the south coast of Spain as a full member, which would allow its teams to take part in European competitions.

Tiny Gibraltar, just 6.8 square kilometres (2.6 square miles) and home to about 30,000 people, previously won provisional membership of UEFA in December 2006.

But it was turned down a month later by a large majority in a UEFA Congress in Dusseldorf, Germany.

Gibraltar Football Association general secretary Richard Manning told AFP Monday there were still "quite a few obstacles" to full membership.

The Gibraltar league comprises six teams in the premier division, 10 in reserves, 12 in the second division, three women's teams, and 47 junior teams from under-sevens to under-16s with about 600 young players.

Aruba excels in the Central American Caribbean Body Building and Fitness Championship



ORANJESTAD -- Last week the Central American Caribbean Body Building and Fitness Championship took place in Puerto Rico. During that competition, 5 Aruban athletes participated and Aruba's name was once again in the spotlight. Joan Cannegieter competed in the Junior category and won first place, but also placed 2nd in the Welter Weight category (up to 75 kilos); Guiver Scholten won 4th place in the Heavy Weight category (up to 100 kilos); Luis Duran won 5th place in the Master 40+ category; Marlison Hooi won 5th place in the Light Heavy Weight category (up to 90 kilos); and Carolina Lopez won 5th place in the Body Fitness short class category. Monday afternoon the athletes returned to Aruba where they received a warm welcome from all their fans, family and friends.

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Football: Argentines out for Brazil revenge



Brazil 2014 World Cup Mascot

club trade in Brazil - strikers Juan Manuel Martinez of Corinthians and Hernan Barcos of Palmeiras and midfielders Pablo Guinazu from Internacional Porto Alegre and Cruzeiro's Walter Montillo.

Barcos is a potential call-up for upcoming World Cup qualifiers against reigning South American champions Uruguay and Chile.

Brazil are pre-qualified as holders, hence Menezes can delve into his youth ranks with less riding on the imme-

diate outcome, whereas Argentina have to ensure they bag a berth in the regional qualifiers.

They currently head the group.

"We shall have to play it differently and go for it more than we did in Brazil," said Barcos.

But he added that Sabella had generally been "pleased with the performance as we turned in an intelligent showing and what was missing was really only the result."

"We're working on a few tactical things," added Maximiliano Rodriguez of Newell's Old Boys, voicing

the hope that the home crowd would also make a difference.

Brazil star Neymar, fresh from winning the Recopa Sudamericana title with Santos against Universidad de Chile said meanwhile that "playing against Argentina is different than against other nations. I always like to meet them."

Neymar is set to start in attack alongside Leandro Damiao, a mainstay of Brazil's Olympic runners-up - he finished tournament top scorer and who plays for SC Internacional of Porto Alegre.

BUENOS AIRES (AFP) - Alejandro Sabella's Argentina will be out for revenge today when they take on longtime rivals Brazil in their "Superclasico de las Americas" return in the northern city of Chaco.

Brazil won the opening encounter in Goiana on September 19 since when Sabella has tweaked a home-grown squad with the arrival of striker Ignacio Scocco from Newell's Old Boys

Both countries will be playing young home-based stars with top names such as the hosts' Leo Messi in European action for their clubs.

The match will be played in the modest northern city of La Resistencia, home to second tier Zone B side Chaco for Ever.

The match allows Sabella and Brazil counterpart Mano Menezes will use the occasion to see what emerging talents are likely to blossom in time for the 2014 World Cup.

Adding a little spice to the occasion is the fact that four of the Argentinians ply their

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